

ANDREW CARNEGIE MANSION

2 East 91st Street, New York

Andrew Carnegie, who arrived in the United States from Scotland at age 13, became one of the nation's richest men, establishing an industrial empire that included coal mines, steel mills, and steamship and rail lines. In 1901 he began construction on this 64-room brick mansion, which he intended to be "the most modest, plainest, and roomiest house in New York." From it, he devoted the rest of his life to philanthropic enterprises, in particular the establishment of public libraries across the nation. Carnegie died in 1919, and in 1972 the Carnegie Corporation gave the house, neither the city's most modest nor its plainest, to the Smithsonian Institution. It now serves as the National Design Museum.